

Project Name: Low Carbon Fuel Standard Reporting Tool (LCFS RT) Gen 2

OCIO Project #:

Department: California Air Resources Board

Revision Date:

Concept Statement

Description

Brief description of the proposed project:

The ARB proposes to improve and update functionality of the Low Carbon Fuel Standard Reporting Tool in response to industry concerns and regulatory and policy changes occurring within the LCFS Program. This includes augmenting LCFS system processes to ensure accurate credit reporting, data aggregation and data correction. This will also include LCFS administrative responsibilities to meet regulatory obligations for monitoring and compliance checking, extracting reported information, and reconciling reports. Other processes to be implemented include integrating the bio-refinery registration process and a method 2A/2B application process with the LCFS Reporting Tool.

Need Statement

High Level Functional Requirements:

The LCFS Reporting Tool Gen 2 project will consist of two primary requirements. The first is to provide ongoing technical support or system refinements of the existing LCFS Reporting Tool (LCFS RT) based on continuing regulatory requirements and user feedback. For this requirement, the LCFS RT system will be updated based on refinement of the regulation. Areas that may potentially see changes include, but are not limited to, user interface and XML, credit tracking and credit transfer, report generation and history tracking, and refinement of ARB internal administrative capabilities. The second requirement is to develop and integrate into the LCFS RT two processes that have high impact on compliance reporting. These processes are biofuel registration and the determination of custom carbon intensity values, called method 2A/2B. Both processes are currently performed manually and are not integrated with the LCFS RT.

What is Driving This Need?

The LCFS Regulation requires accurate tracking and reporting of information for the determination of compliance. Based on the data submitted, credits and deficits are calculated and have direct impact on the compliance status of a regulated party. An interactive, online system is necessary to manage the flow of data, to ensure the information submitted is securely entered and tracked, and to ensure calculations are performed uniformly. As the LCFS regulation evolves during the reporting period of 2010 to 2020, new requirements or changes to current requirements may require corresponding changes to the LCFS RT. Additionally, this project is required to eliminate time-consuming manual processes that could potentially lead to errors or increase processing time.

Risk to the Organization if This Work is Not Done:

If this project was not done, implementation of the LCFS Regulation could be highly impacted. The LCFS RT is an integral part of the Regulation. Each component within the system is a result, if not a direct reflection, of the requirements contained within the LCFS Regulation. If the system changes were not done, there could be discrepancies between regulatory requirements and system design, which could impact a regulated party's ability to comply with the regulation. This could potentially add to the existing three lawsuits currently in place. Additionally, this project will help reduce staff overhead through

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Benefit Statement

Intangible Benefits

Process Improvements (describe the nature of the process improvement):

This project will eliminate time-consuming manual process and help reduce staff overhead and resources. In addition, this project eliminates the need for a user to search in different locations for various reporting needs. Through the integration of the biofuel producer registration and method 2A/2B processes with the LCFS RT, a user can initiate several processes in a central location.

Other Intangible Benefits:

This project will greatly benefit all users by providing a central, uniform, secure platform from which all regulatory requirements are captured, processed, reviewed, and audited. A key benefit of the system is the world-wide, 24/7 accessibility for all registered participants. Users can view and update their information as needed, without the need to carry, store, or email reports for which data can be difficult to track. Additionally, the LCFS Regulation could potentially include regulated parties from all over the world with diverse technical capabilities. The LCFS RT system is constructed with the technical flexibility to handle a variety of users but simple enough to be used with minimal training.

Tangible Benefits

Revenue Generation (describe how revenue will be generated):

No revenue will be generated from this project.

Cost Savings (describe how cost will be reduced):

Information unknown without more detailed FSR-based analysis

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Cost Avoidance (describe the cost and how avoided):

Information unknown without more detailed FSR-based analysis


Risk Avoidance (describe the risk and how avoided):

Information unknown without more detailed FSR-based analysis

Improved Services:

Information unknown without more detailed FSR-based analysis

Consistency

"No" Responses 		Rationale	Action Required
Enterprise Architecture		Information unknown without more detailed FSR-based analysis	
Business Plan			
Strategic Plan			

Impact to Other Entities

Nature of Impact to Other Entities

Entity:

Describe the nature of the impact:

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Entity:

Describe the nature of the impact:

Entity:

Describe the nature of the impact:

Entity:

Describe the nature of the impact:

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Solution Alternatives

Alternative 1:

Information unknown without more detailed FSR-based analysis

Technical Considerations for Alternative 1:

ROM Cost:

to

Note: high end of range must not exceed 200% of low end of range

Alternative 2:

Technical Considerations for Alternative 2:

ROM Cost:

to

Note: high end of range must not exceed 200% of low end of range

Alternative 3:

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Technical Considerations for Alternative 3:

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ROM Cost: to

Note: high end of range must not exceed 200% of low end of range

Recommendation

Comparison:

Alternative 1	ROM Cost	Risk
	\$0 - \$0	
Alternative 2	ROM Cost	Risk
	\$0 - \$0	
Alternative 3	ROM Cost	Risk
	\$0 - \$0	

Conclusions:

1	
2	
3	
4	

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Recommendation:

Project Approach *(if known)*

System Complexity:			System Business Hours: <i>(e.g., 24x7, 9am-5pm)</i> :		
Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Mainframe	<input type="checkbox"/> Client Server	<input type="checkbox"/> Web Based		Num. of New Databases:
Technology	<input type="checkbox"/> New	<input type="checkbox"/> New to Staff	<input type="checkbox"/> In-House Experience		Interfaces:
Implementation	<input type="checkbox"/> Central Site	<input type="checkbox"/> Phased Roll-out			Num. of Sites:
M & O Support	<input type="checkbox"/> Contractor	<input type="checkbox"/> Data Center	<input type="checkbox"/> Project	<input type="checkbox"/> In House	
Procurement Approach:					Number of Procurements:
Open Procurement?		Delegated Procurement?			
Scope of Contract	<input type="checkbox"/> Development	<input type="checkbox"/> Implementation	<input type="checkbox"/> M & O	<input type="checkbox"/> Other:	
Anticipated Length of Contract:		Years /		extensions for years	